

**Minutes  
Of the  
Delaware Bicycle Council  
June 5, 2002  
DeIDOT Administration Building**

**Members Present**

Don Carbaugh, Chair and New Castle County Representative  
Paul Stevenson, NCC Representative  
Jay Kelley, DeIDOT Representative  
Amy Wilburn, At-Large Representative  
Tim Plemmons, Delaware Greenways & Trails  
Lisa Moore, Office of Highway Safety

**DeIDOT Support Staff Present**

Fritz Schranck, Deputy Attorney General  
Dennis Scott, Bike/Ped Coordinator  
David Petrosky, Planner  
Wendy Bernard, Secretary

**Members Absent**

Carl Anderson, At-large Representative  
Fred Breukelman, Dept. of Public Health  
Laura Madara, DNREC Representative  
Janet Arns, Department of Education  
Tom Pleasanton, Kent County Representative  
Lee Ann Walling, Sussex County Representative  
George Heberling, DE State Police

**Guests Present**

Steve Spindler, Steve Spindler Cartography  
Denise Chaplick, RBA Group, Inc.

The meeting was called to order at 5:14 p.m.

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

**Introduction of Guests**

Dave P. introduced the two guests, Steve Spindler and Denise Chaplick, to the Council. These two are working with Dave on the New Castle County bicycle map. They had proofs of the draft map for the Council members to look at and make comments/suggestions later in the meeting.

**Council Membership**

Don updated the Council on the current membership standings:

- The COT seat was still vacant due to it's reorganization;
- Lee Ann Walling has decided to stay on with the Council.

### **Chairmanship**

Don C. brought up the issue of needing to nominate a chairman for the next year. There were not enough members present for a quorum so there still could be no vote. He is still interested in filling the position and reminded the other members that any citizen member was eligible to be voted the chairman if they were interested.

## **II. Program**

### **New Castle County Map**

Dave informed the Council that the BLOS data input was complete. He had a draft map available for the Council to look at. He was planning on scheduling two public workshops to take place within the next month to give the public a chance to comment on the draft map.

Denise went over some of the map's features:

- This map was a mix of recreational and commuting cycling which differs from the Kent/Sussex which was mostly recreational;
- The Kent/Sussex map road ranking was based on the Bicycle Level of Service (BLOS) where level A & B were above average, C & D were average, and F was not suitable for cyclists, but the New Castle map ranked the roads as A being above, B being average and C, D, & E were below average. She feels this is a more suitable ranking system;
- The NCC map had an improved legend with a "How to use the map" section and road maintenance hot line phone numbers added, but used the same colors for ranking the roads as the K/S map for consistency;
- Bicycle Route 1 is highlighted for easy reference;
- The time/distance scale was easier to use and a steep slopes key was added;
- They will be using a better quality of paper than the K/S map to avoid the map tearing at the seams from wear. Steve brought a sample of the Rhode Island Bicycle map, which used the new paper, to demonstrate its durability. It's a little more expensive, but not as expensive as using Tyvek. The reason Tyvek isn't a good option is it's not good material for printing small details;
- The map will include an inset of Wilmington;
- The map was also to be smaller when folded so it would fit easier into envelopes for mailing;

Most of the comments were positive and overall the map was well received. The only comments were to complete the road network into the other states in the southwest part of the county and noting that the Bicycle Route One around the Summit Bridge starts & stops.

## **III. Old Business**

### **Newsletter & Website**

The newsletter went out. Don commented that it was still a struggle to get it published and he was planning on speaking with Joe Cantalupo about getting an outside company to help. He thanked Dave for all of his work, but noted that Dave would not always be available to help because his workload was increasing and his role in bicycle matters was going to be greatly diminished. Don had received positive feedback regarding the newsletter.

Don mentioned the website was up to date and there was a map available for downloading on Steve's website. Don suggested having the new bicycle maps available on the DelDOT website.

### **Budget**

Don asked Dennis where the budget stood so far. Dave gave him the figure of what was left in the budget. He also reminded the Council that any expenses were due to Dennis by Friday for the end of the year.

Don asked the Council if they thought the Council could transfer some of the DBC's funds to the White Clay Bicycle Club to help pay for Effective Cycling Course's some members had taken. Paul S. made a motion to transfer the funds by the 12<sup>th</sup>, and Tim P. seconded the motion. Dave P. offered to work on getting the funds transferred.

As for the FY 2003 budget, there had not been a word yet as to what had been approved for the Council. Dennis would look into it and find out.

### **Rail to Trail Study**

Dennis informed the Council that the Study had been handed off to Joe Cantalupo for review. Fritz asked when the study would possibly be through the review process and Tim asked how the study would be used and distributed once done. Dennis said it would have a broad distribution and he wasn't sure when it would be complete.

### **New Castle Rail/Trail**

Tim briefed the Council on the progress of the trail. Phase I of the conversion would include the New Castle Industrial Track to Rt. 273 near Battery Park. New Castle County had received a grant. Tim was thinking of sending out flyers to promote the trail. His next step is to contact nearby neighborhood civic organizations to get them involved. The only hurdles he foresees with this project is getting the trail across the Christiania River and through the Wildlife Refuge.

Fritz asked what type of clearance a bike/ped bridge needed because he remembered a similar bridge on the Great Bike Trail in Kent Island, MD and suggested Tim contact MDOT to see what they used. Tim thought the regulations were a 6ft clearance at high tide and had a bridge in mind which was a cable bridge with no center support.

Dave P. also mentioned that Rt. 273 at Battery Park was part of the Bike/Ped pool at DelDOT so Tim might want to check on that.

### **Statewide Bike Plan**

Dennis stated he had met with the consultants and the technical memos were complete. The full draft should be done before the next Study Advisory Committee meeting. The meeting scheduled for June 12<sup>th</sup> has been postponed until the draft is completed.

Dennis also asked if anyone had any bicyclists' pictures to be included in the plan for the consultant to use.

### **"Safe Routes to Schools"**

Don said that the bill, SB 353, passed in the State Senate and was awaiting action in the House of Representatives. Fritz had worked on the bill and spoke on what the bill said, which is it authorizes the Department of Transportation to tap into state funds for Safe Routes. The proposed routes will be picked on a prioritization method.

Don mentioned this project supported the Governor's Liveable Delaware Initiative and proposed to have two grants of \$25,000 per project/per year for two projects. Other sources of funding for these types of projects were mentioned, such as grants from the Department of Health, Centers for Disease Control and the University of DE to name a few.

## **IV. "Task" Updates**

### **Bike Month**

Paul reviewed May's Bike month activities which went well. He suggested that the Council get an earlier start for next years Bike Month so that posters could be made, more contests could be organized, and more overall events and rodeos could be planned. He suggested starting this fall to organized next springs' events.

Don thanked everybody for helping out. Dave had worked the two bike rodeos for kids and the Legislative Ride while Dennis was participating in DE's State Employee Fitness Day.

### **Network**

All of the bike network maps had been handed into the consultants. Dave asked Denise if it was too late to incorporate the networks into the Bike map. She said she would have to see the routes and judge from there. Don asked if the map could be shown on the Internet in layers to show different routes. Steve said it couldn't because other maps were created using GIS systems which allowed them to be layered.

### **Effective Cycling**

Don said they had tried to have a Road 1 Course in May, but only had one person register, so it was cancelled. There are two courses scheduled in October for teachers.

### **State Police Training**

Bud and Don had prepared a PowerPoint presentation to discuss the interpretation of bike laws and police training. They were talking about the possibility of a training video which DelDOT would help with. There were a couple of questions to work out such as the City of Wilmington's Code which is not consistent with the Delaware State Code. Don said the City's laws intend to be updated to coincide with the States laws. Fritz said the City could just adopt the state laws as their own.

## **V. New Business**

### **Coordinator's Update**

- Dennis spoke of an area he would like to have looked at for safety issues. The area is around Newport Road near the high school. There is a narrow bridge which gets a lot of vehicle traffic and pedestrian traffic when school is in session and the bridge is not wide enough to accommodate both. He stated he knew of some pre-fabricated bridges that cost around \$95,000.
- He had spoken to a White Clay Bike Club member who was concerned that along the Route 40 construction, driveways were getting precedence over side paths for bicycles.
- He wanted to look at the Cherry Lane pedestrian project
- There was an Open House scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup> at Brandywine.
- He brought up a suggestion that the State's Driver's Education courses be renamed Transportation Education courses and include information on how to take the bus or a train, as well as bicycle laws.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

**The Next DBC Meeting will be on August 7th from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.  
At the DelDOT Admin. Building in the  
New Castle Conference Room**